(b)-if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has allcwed the screening of some of the Indian feature in their country; and

(d) if so, the names of such films and the terms and conditions imposed by Pakistan for screening these Indian films?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pakistan has banned the transmission of Indian TV Channels in Pakistan. The ban on Indian news channeis is strictly enforced, in particular.

(c) and (d) The Pakistan Film Censor Board recently permitted public screening in Pakistan of the Indian films "Taj Mahal" and "Mughal-e-Azam". This was stated to be a one time exception. Financial proceeds from the screenings were stated to be utilised for the victims of the earthquake of 8th October, 2005.

**Road accidents**

†*72. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of road accidents on National and State Highways has increased and whether these accidents usually happen due to trucks;

(b) whether generally those truck drivers who drive the trucks after consuming alcohol and drive throughout the night are responsible for it;

(c) whether due to the absence of any stringent law in this regard, drivers commit such negligence;

(d) whether Government intend to bring a bill to make stringent law to check these accidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R.BAALU): (a) As reported by the States/Union Territories (UTs), the details regarding number of accidents are available in terms of road classification, *viz,* National Highways (NHs), State Highways (SHs) and other roads, but not in terms of type of vehicles involved in accidents on these roads. Accordingly, the details regarding number of accidents on NHs and SHs, and total accidents involving Goods Vehicles *i.e.* Trucks/Tempos/Multi Axle Vehicles (MAV)/Articulated vehicles on all roads during 2001to 2004 are given below—

| Year | Number of accidents on NH and SH | Number of accidents involving Trucks/Tempo/MAVs on all roads |
|---|---|---|
| 2001 | 2,07,167 | 98,039 |
| 2002 | 2,27,404 | 90,729 |
| 2003 | 2,18,797 | 91,987 |
| 2004(P) | 2,31,356 | 93,754 |

P=Provisional.

(b) As reported by the State Governments, total accidents on all roads involving drivers under the influence of alcohol accounted for 6.1%, 5.7% and 5.2% of the total accidents in the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively. Details of accidents due to drivers throughout the night are not available.

(c) to (e) Section 185 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for punishment for driving under the influence of liquor. To prevent fatigue to the driver, Rule 90(4) of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 has a provision for minimum of two drivers as a condition of national permit in a vehicle and a full width seat behind driver's seat for one of the drivers to sleep. Enforcement of all the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act is the responsibility of concerned States/UTs. The existing provision concerning drunken driving is stringent enough to check the same. The Government intends to bring comprehensive amendments in the various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to make the penalty more stringent for driving under the influence of alcohol.